Can You Be Born Again While Living Isolated from the Church?

Do you consider it is appropriate for a Christian to resist if someone wants to harm him?

 Answer: No — Explanation: If you choose not to resist someone who wants to harm you, but to respond with gentleness, love, and trust in God, it shows that you understand the values of the Kingdom of God and are living as a disciple of Christ. Lord Jesus said in Matthew 5:39: "But I tell you, do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also." This means that:

• You do not respond to evil with evil, but leave everything in God's hands (Romans 12:19).

• You choose the path of humility and forgiveness, not resistance and revenge.

• You live in confidence that God is your defender and that He sees and rewards.

• As His disciple, you have chosen to live as Lord Jesus lived. This transformed life manifests itself through true discipleship, in which the Kingdom of God becomes the supreme priority, and Lord Jesus' non-resistance to those who crucified Him becomes your model for life. As Scripture teaches us: "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21).

This attitude is not weakness, but the power of the Holy Spirit working in the born-again believer.

 Answer: Yes (wrong) — Explanation: If you say you agree to resist those who want to harm you, you contradict the teaching of Lord Jesus in Matthew 5:39, which clearly states that you should not resist those who hurt you. Resistance, the desire to take justice into your own hands:

• Betrays a heart that has not been transformed by the grace of Christ.

• It goes against the Lord's commands, which call us to love our enemies and bless those who persecute us.

• It opposes the personal example of the Lord Jesus, who "when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to Him who judges justly" (1 Peter 2:23).

If you do not receive the Word of God with an open heart, there can be no genuine new birth. Resistance to the Word means rejecting the seed from which the new man is born. If rejected, the seed is "corrupted," and the process of being born again is compromised. Such an attitude shows that the heart is not good soil, suitable for bearing fruit (Luke 8:15).

This post is an excerpt from the booklet "Are You Truly Born Again? – Biblical Questionnaire", which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at https://www.unmodifiedword.com.